

4D Modeling: Past, Present, and Future

Martin Fischer

Professor, Civil + Environmental
Engineering

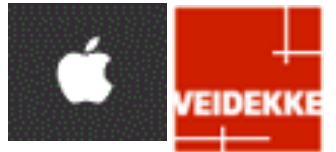
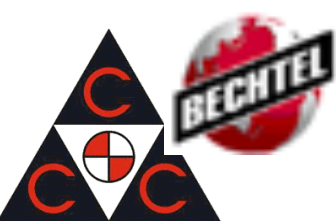
<http://www.stanford.edu/~fischer>
fischer@stanford.edu

- Director, CIFE (Center for Integrated Facility Engineering)
- Foreign Member, Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences





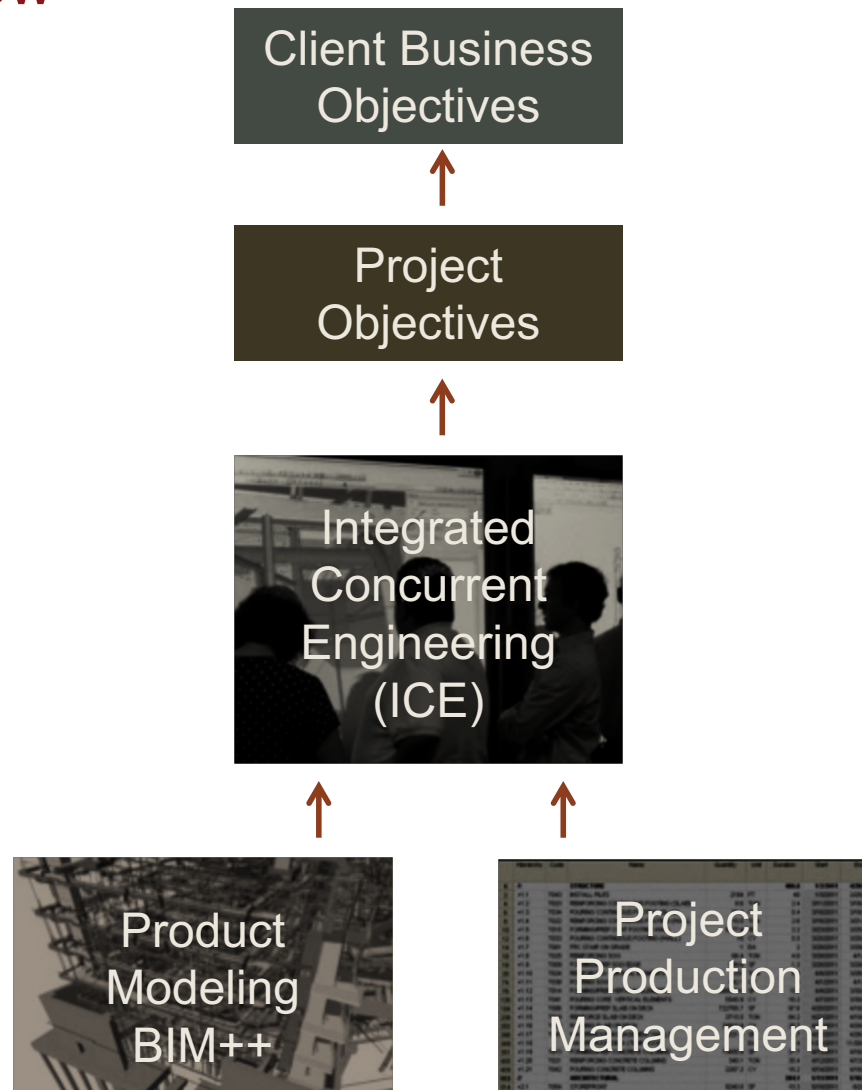
- 100% funded by industry
 - Building owners
 - Design and construction companies
 - Software and hardware vendors
- 1988-2000
 - Building Information Modeling (BIM)
- 2000-2010
 - Virtual Design and Construction (VDC)
- 2010+
 - Optimize Facility Performance



U.S. General Services Administration



VDC Overview



Why is 4D modeling fundamentally important for construction?

- The construction industry
 - gets paid for delivering a product (building, bridge, etc.)
 - delivers its products through applying work processes
- $4D = t + 3D$ or process + product or cost + value
- Time is what makes construction (and life ...) “interesting”
- 5D, 6D, nD, xD, ...

Outline

- Early 4D examples
- Back to the future
 - Easy interfaces
 - Rapid PDSA cycles
 - Parametric 4D modeling
 - Fabrication + construction
 - Metrics about the schedule
- What's next?
 - Beyond construction, multiple schedules
 - Automated 4D modeling
 - Data analytics
 - Metrics about the scheduling process

How I got into 4D modeling

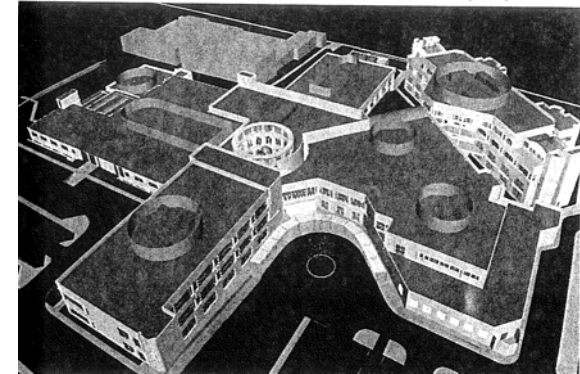
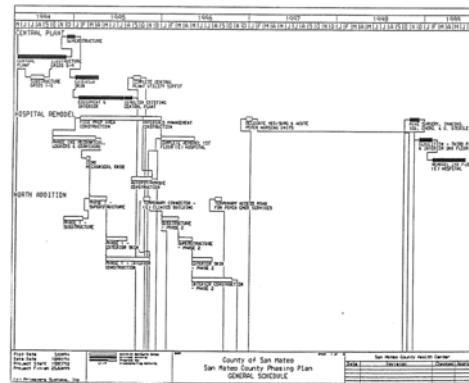
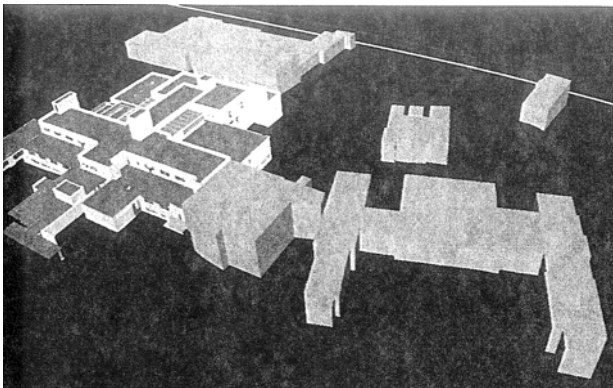


1986: Jamestown Verrazano Bridge, RI
VSL



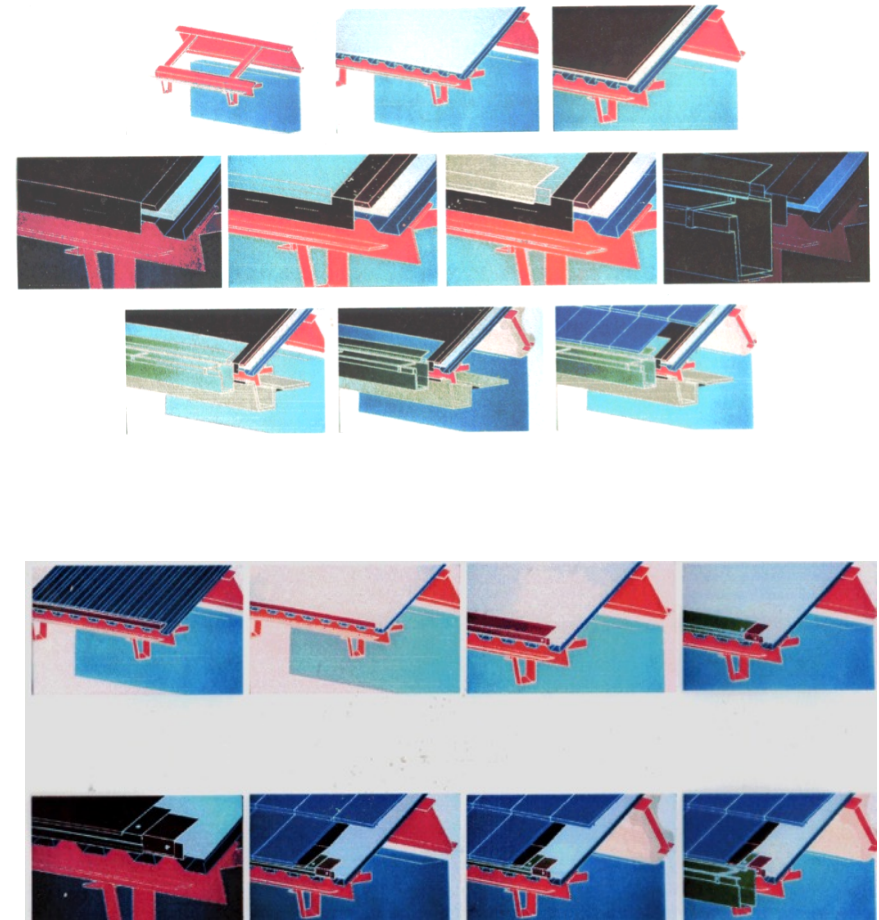
1987: Buddy Cleveland, R&D, Bechtel
Construction Simulation Toolkit

1993: San Mateo County Health Center
Jack Ritter and George Hurley, Dillingham Construction



<https://cife.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/TR101.pdf>

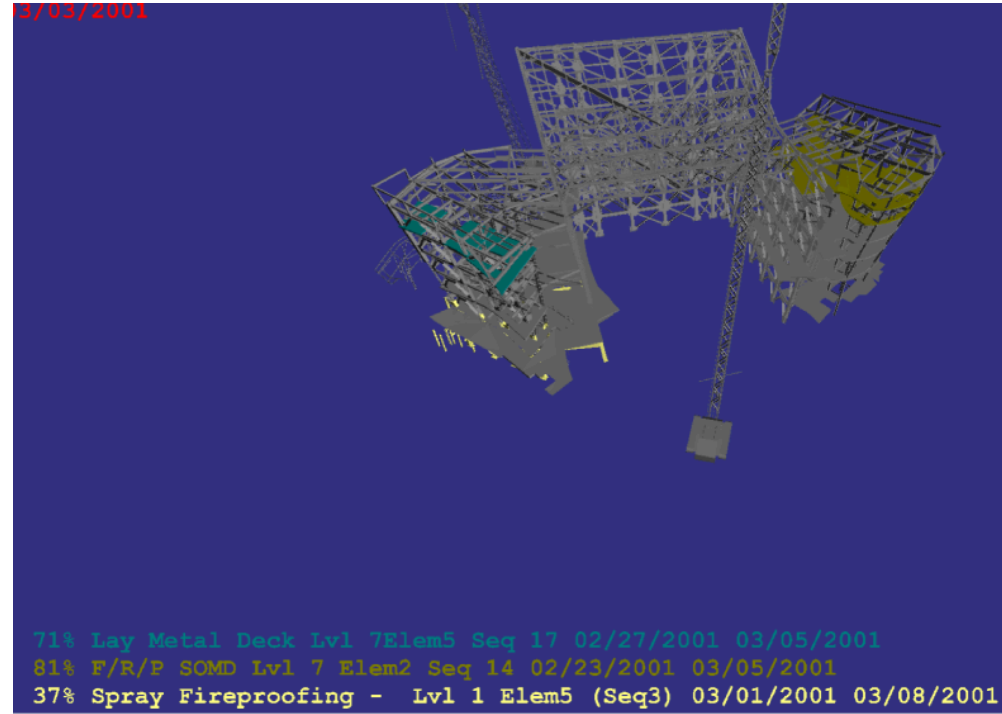
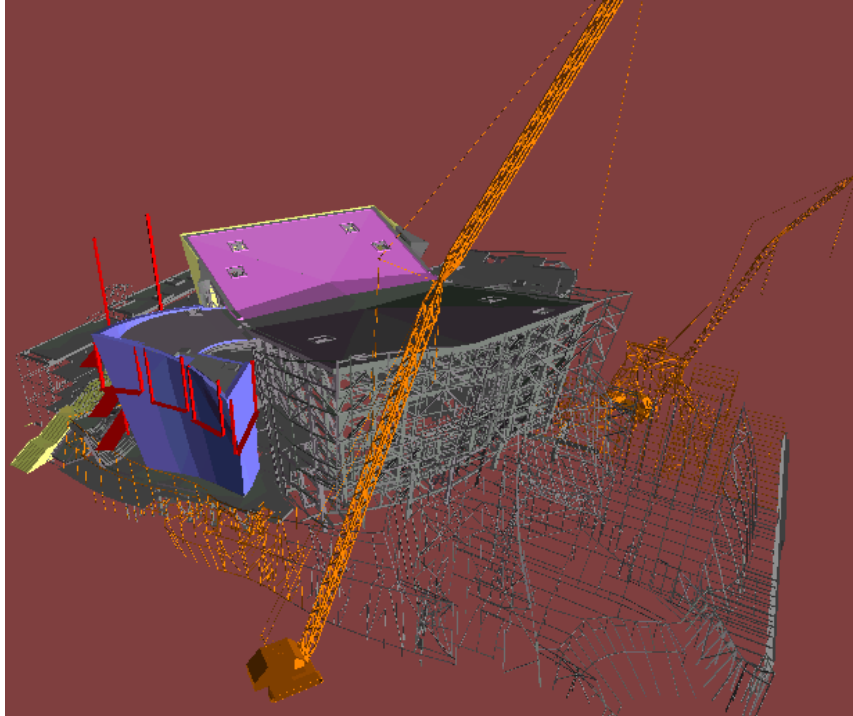
Very interesting ... but my projects are not this complicated



1994 Collaboration with Todd Zabelle, Pacific Contractors

©2017

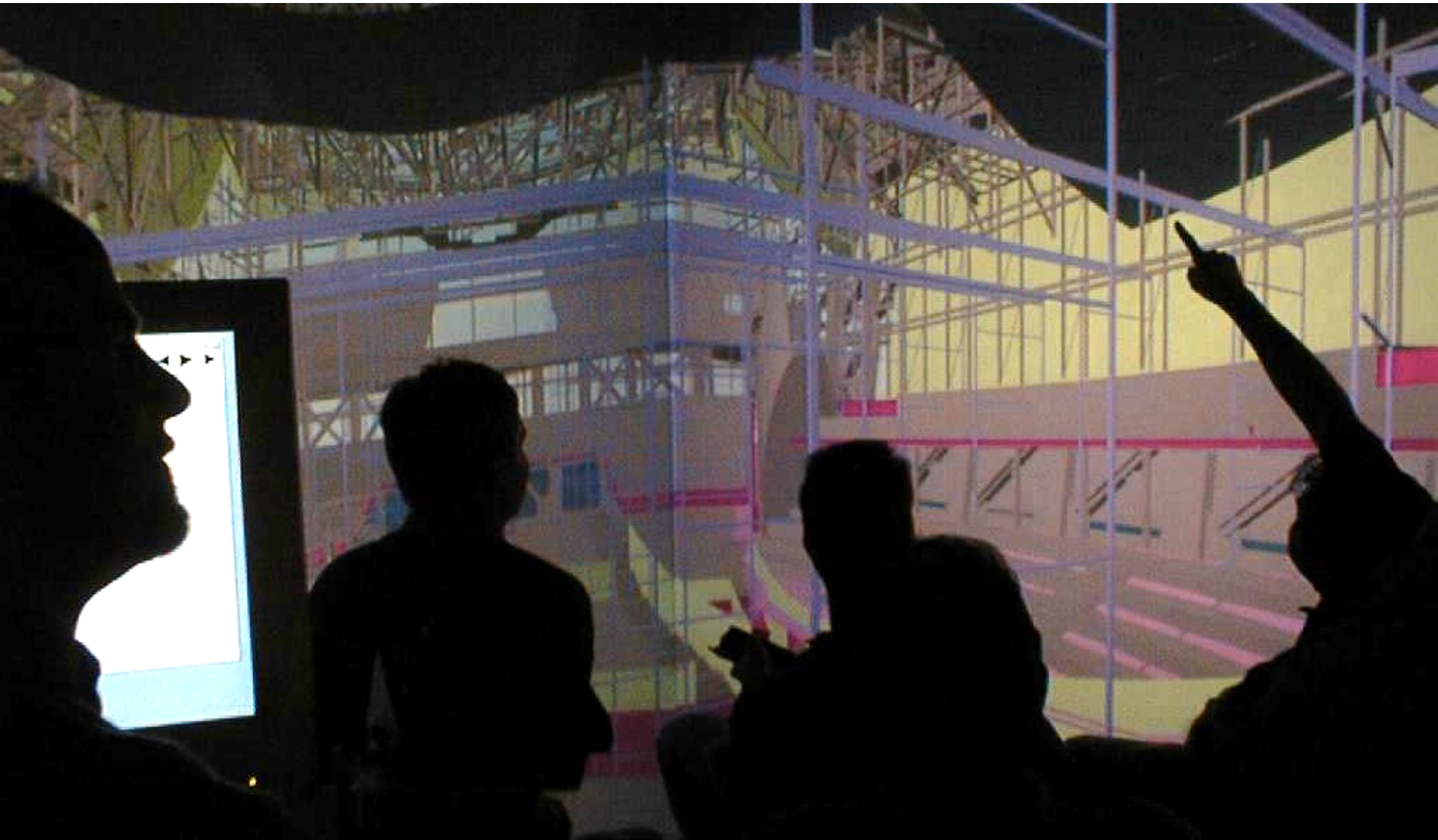
Develop and follow the construction strategy together with your subcontractors



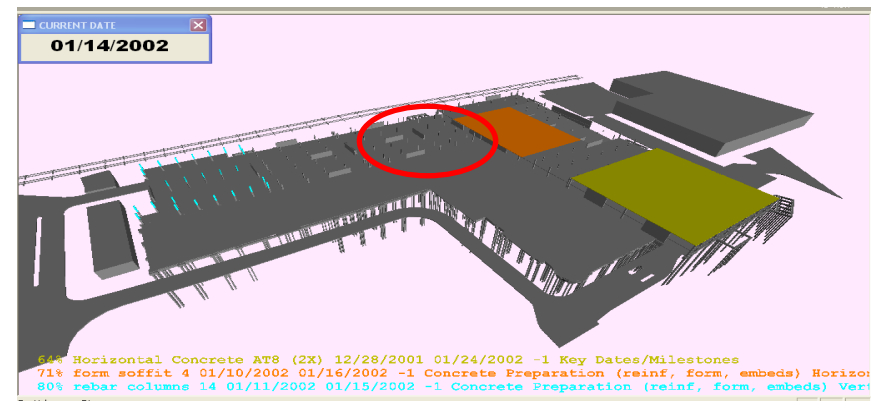
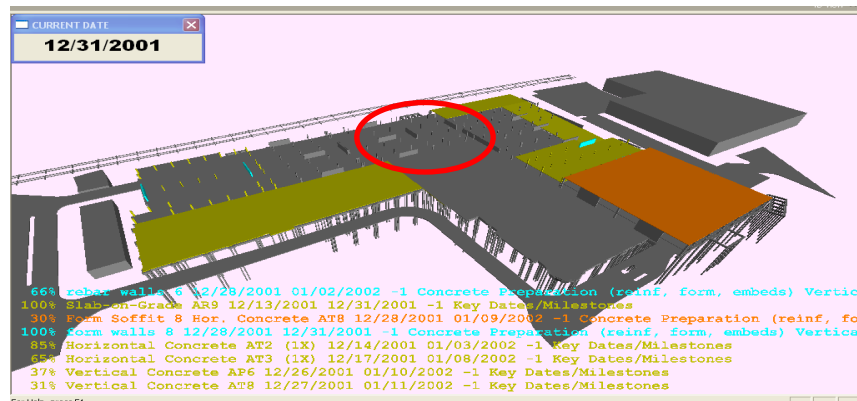
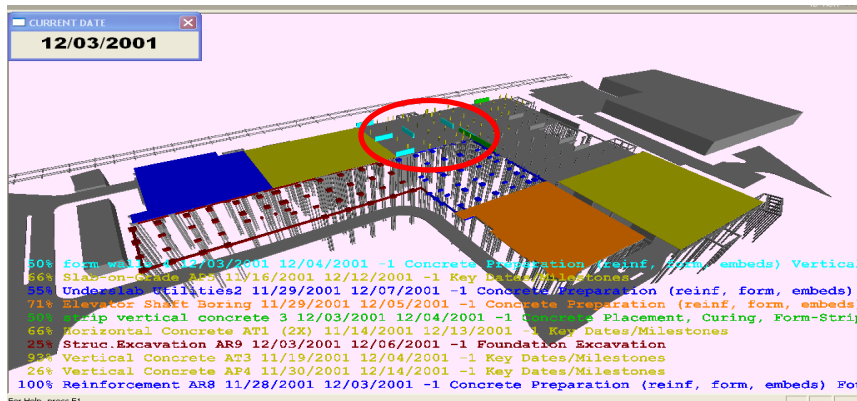
Courtesy Mortenson, Minneapolis, MN

<https://vimeo.com/7478800>

Disney Project Manager:
“The problems we find together we solve together.”

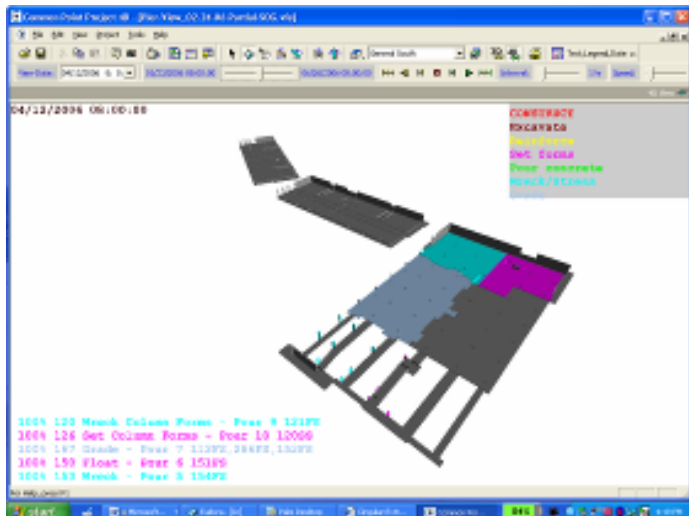
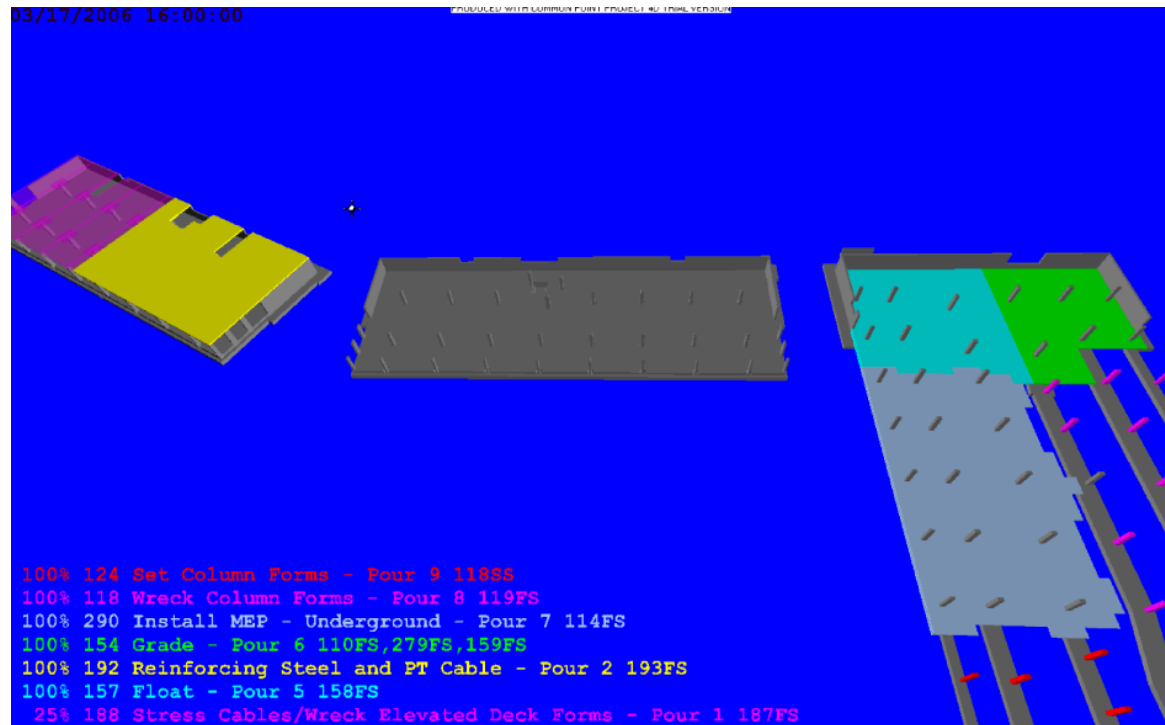


4D models help see open spaces where work can be scheduled



Project example courtesy DPR and Common Point

Plan the daily work of your crews and communicate work assignments to them



Courtesy Accu-Crete, Alexandria, VA

<https://vimeo.com/7478891>

4D modeling solves real problems

- Coordinate construction and building use and operations (1993)
- Obtain the go-ahead from the client rapidly (1993)
- Put everyone on the same page (1994)
- Coordinate fabrication and construction (1997)
- Coordinate the daily work of subs (1997)
- Find the best construction sequence (1998)
- Coordinate construction, temporary structures, and laydown areas (1998)
- Rapidly test all construction scenarios (1998)
- Assess the stability of a structure during construction (1999)
- Plan the construction of a complex project (2000)
- Communicate a complex schedule effectively to all key project participants and stakeholders (2000)
- Obtain the construction permit quickly (2000)
- Confirm access for all trades at all times (2001)
- Cut 2 months out of an already aggressive 16-month schedule (2000)
-

Back to the future

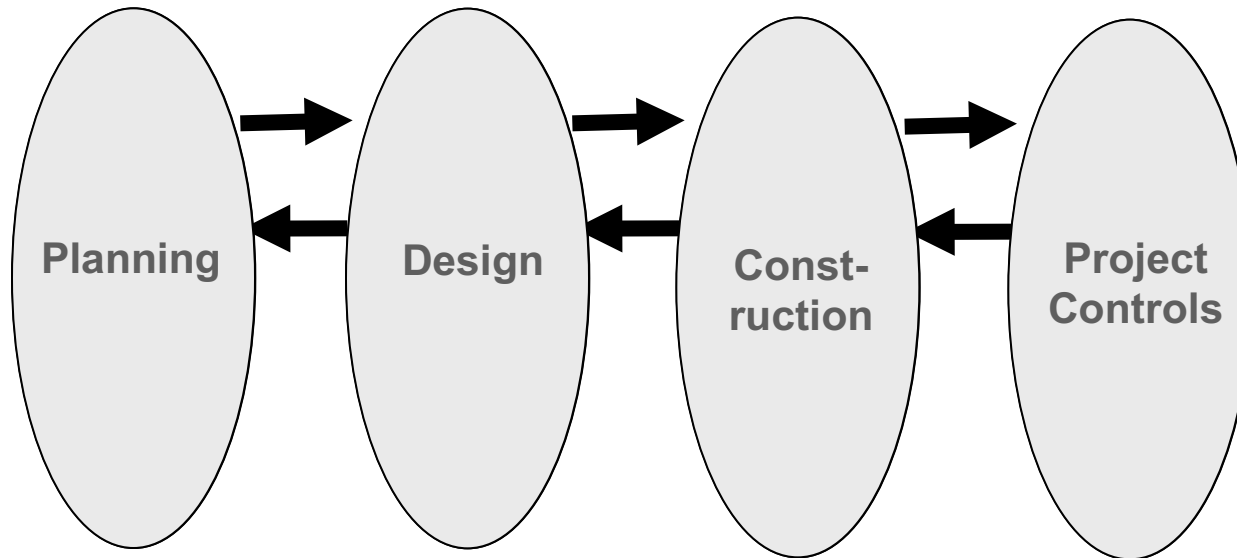
- Easy interfaces
- Rapid PDSA cycles
- Fabrication + construction
- Parametric 4D modeling
- Metrics about the schedule

Production Planning in a Virtual Environment

Stageworks - Objective

There is a historic "Silo Mentality" within large rail Construction projects because data is not integrated between disciplines

Software and work process integration - breaks down the barriers between the Design Silos



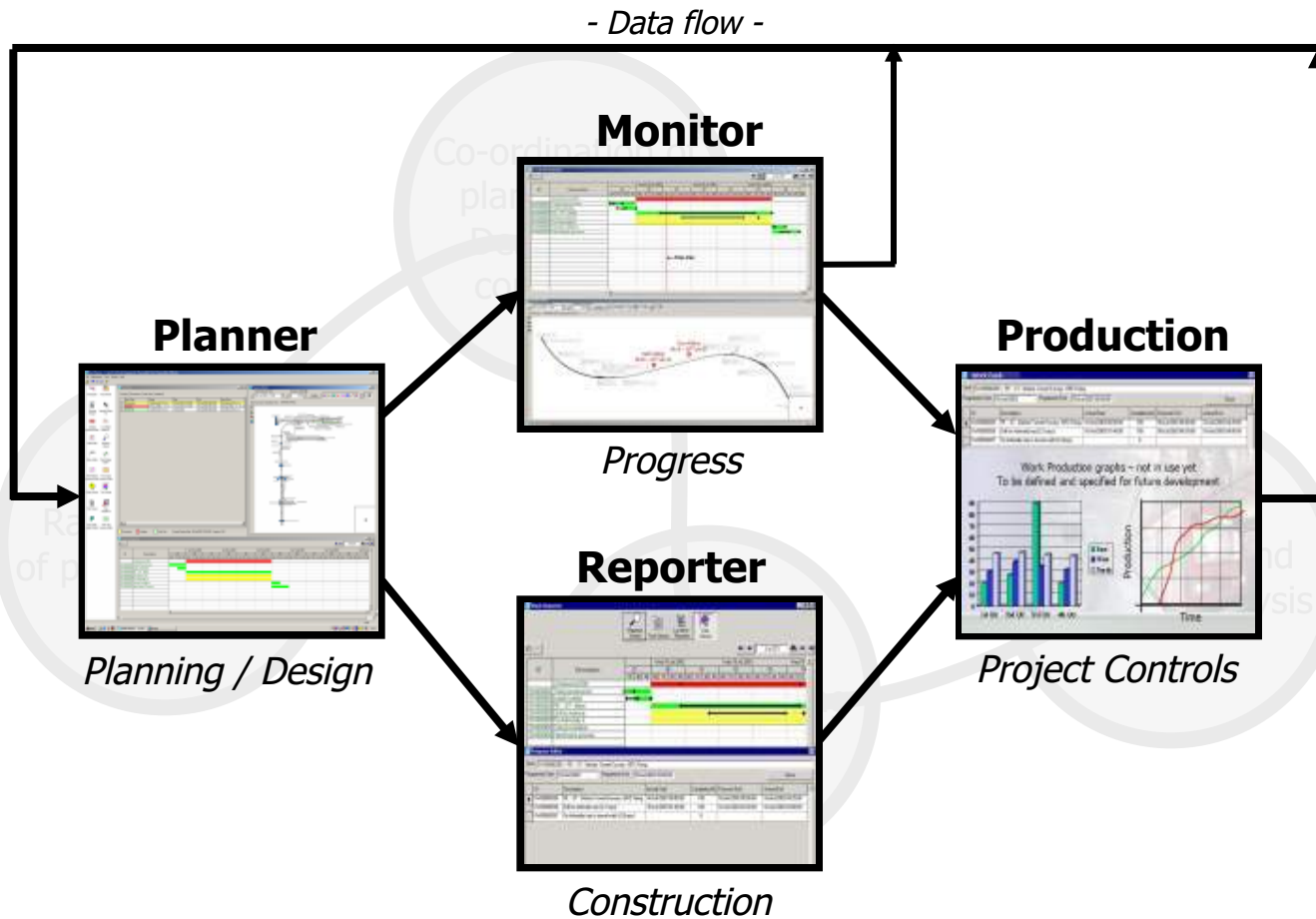
Complex Railway Standards
Multiple information formats etc

Construction of the Railway



Stageworks Application – Modules

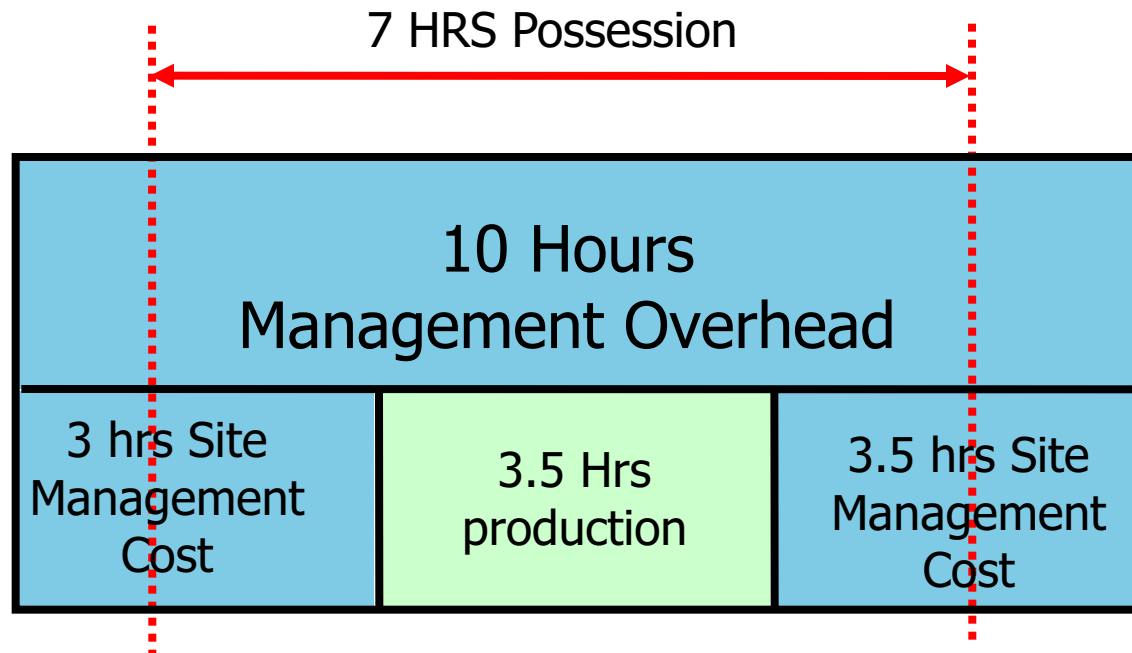
Communicating decision data throughout the life and iterations of the project



Production Data Analysis

Productivity Analysis - actual

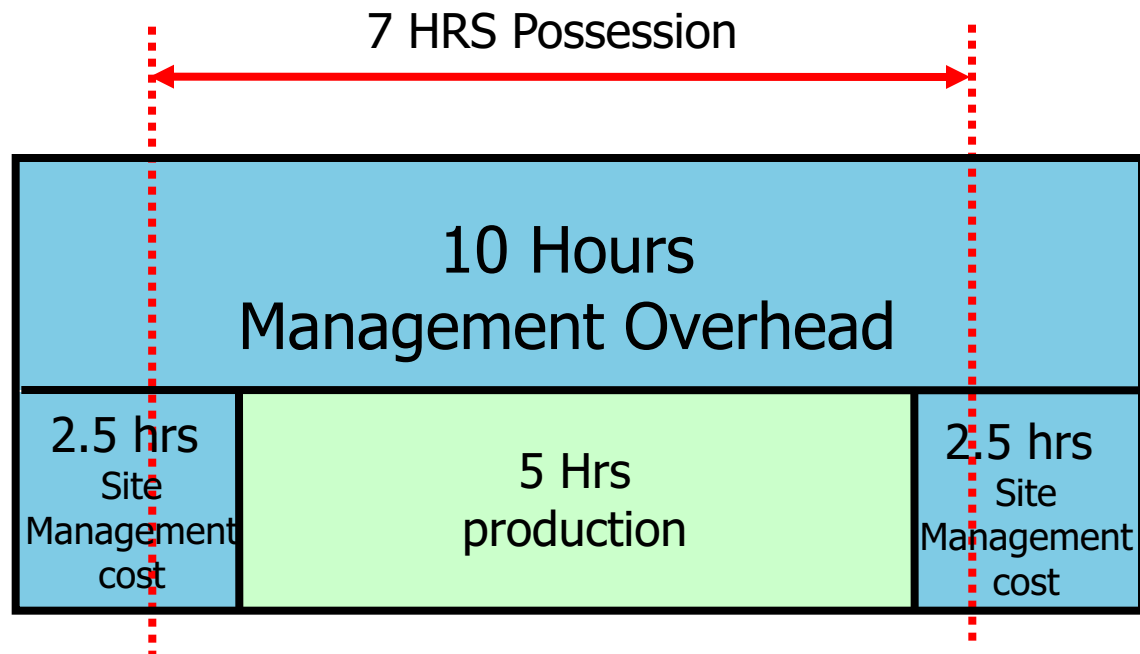
Data obtained over 30 possessions indicated **69%** productive use of available worksite time.



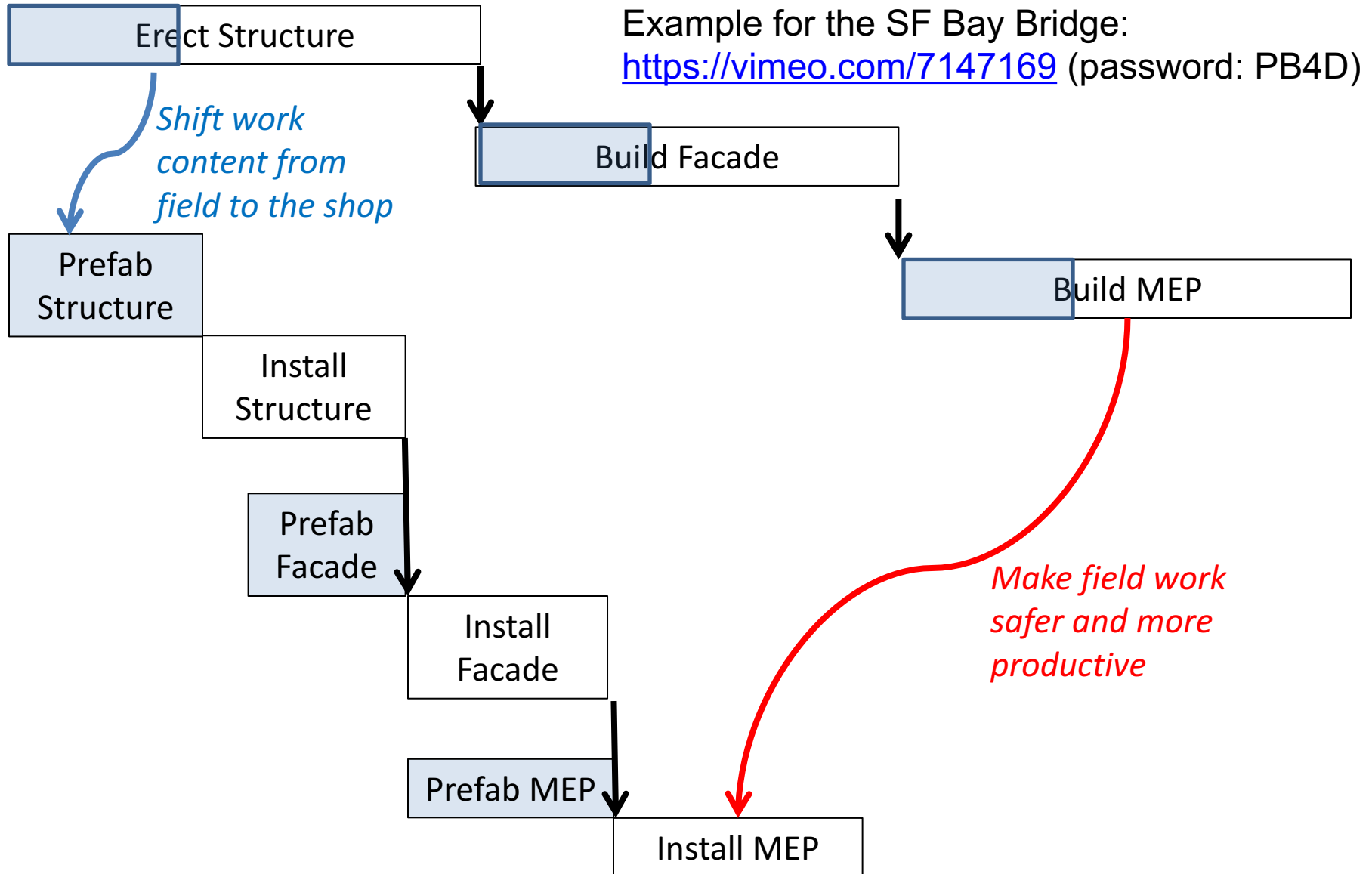
Production Data Analysis

Productivity Analysis - Improvement

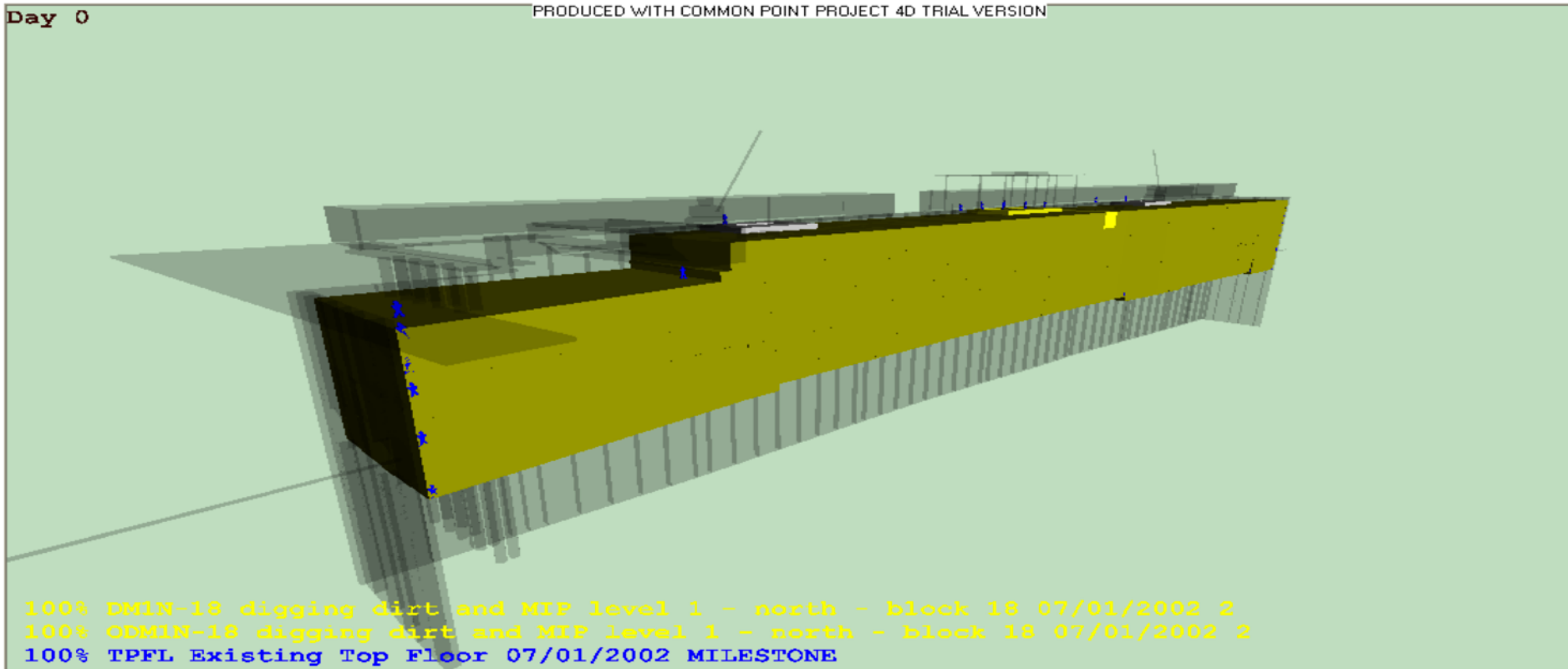
The management of these possessions delivered in the region of **95%** of planned available time.



Prefabrication is the most effective approach to shorten construction schedules



Parametric 4D modeling: Vijzelgracht Subway Station in Amsterdam



<https://vimeo.com/7478855>

Work with Peggy Ho and Max Boegl, Germany

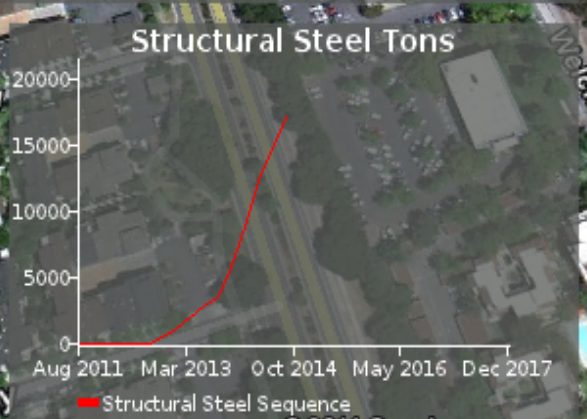
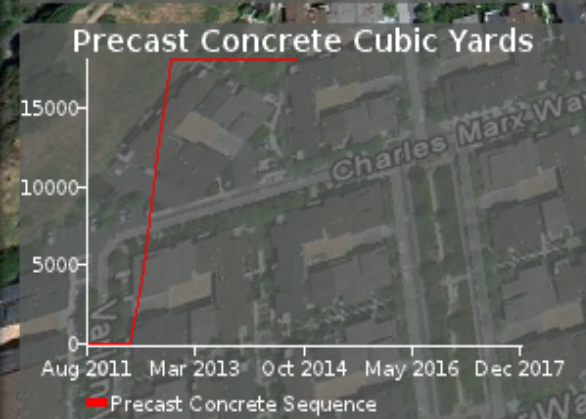
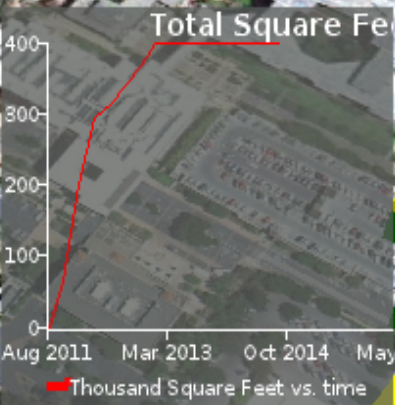
8/13/2017

<https://vimeo.com/73169795>

8/13/2017

8/13/2011 8/13/2017

2011 2017



Work with Leonardo Rischmoller

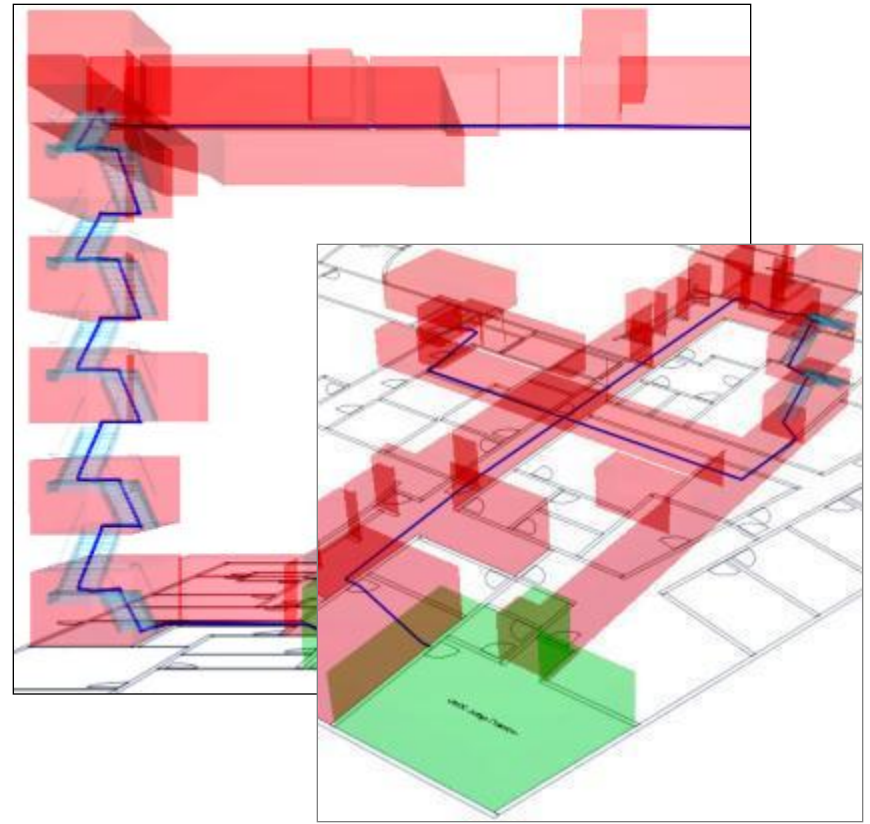
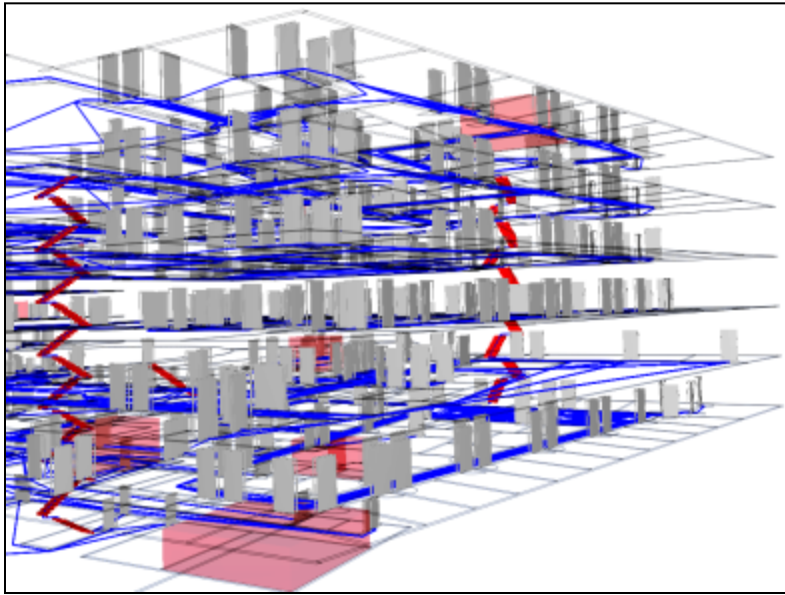


What's next?

- Beyond construction, multiple schedules
- Automated 4D modeling
- Data analytics
- Metrics about the scheduling process

Check all circulation paths in a building

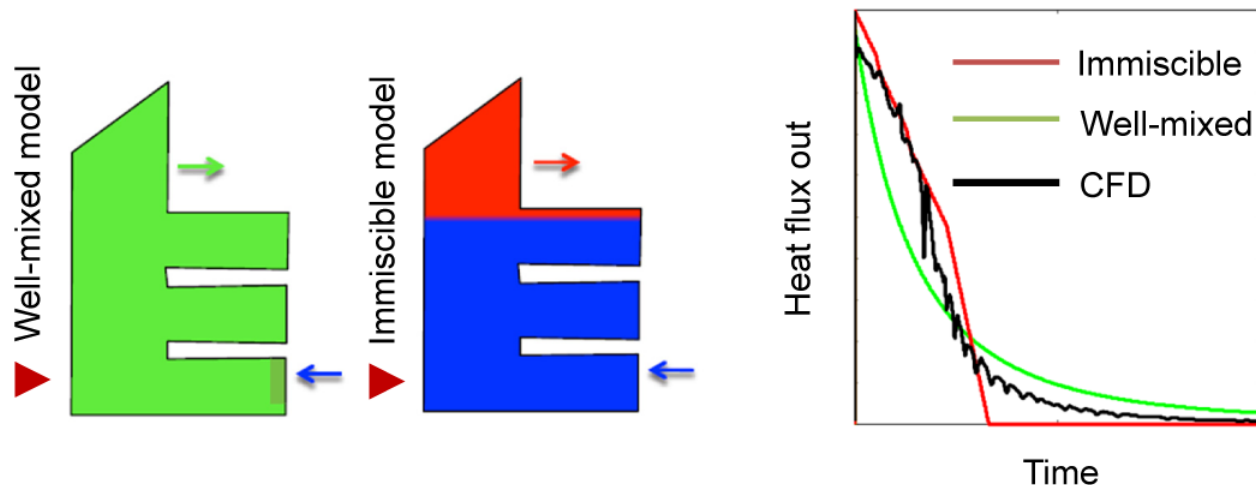
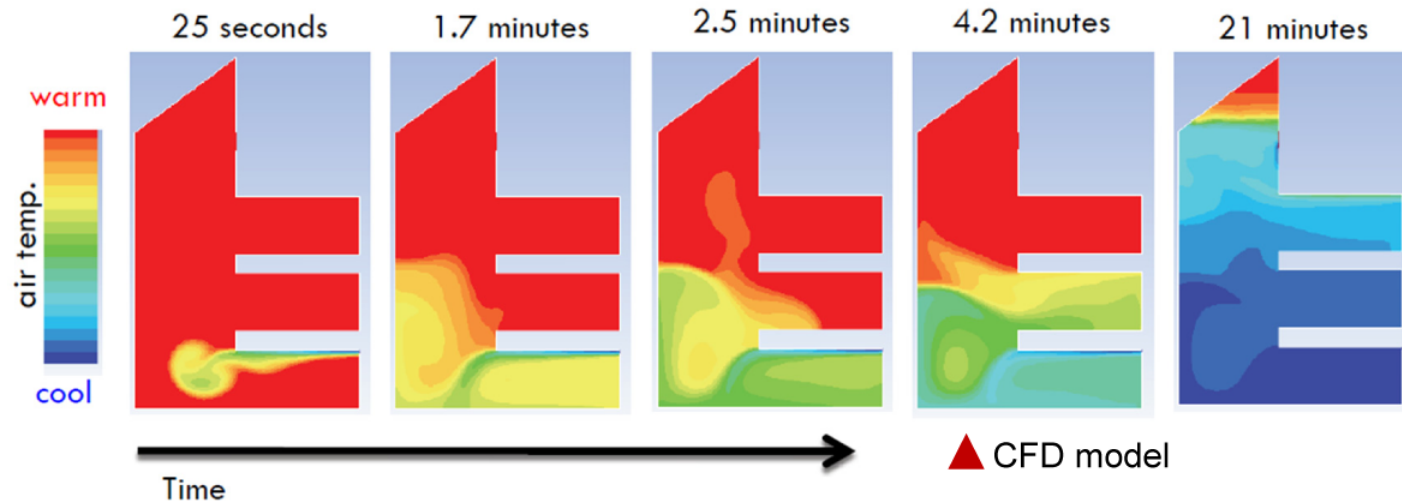
On a 6-story courthouse, approximately **27,000 routes** were tested using **302 circulation rules** in approximately **10 seconds**.



Slide courtesy GSA, work carried at GA Tech with sponsorship by the GSA

Simulation of night purge ventilation using CFD and airflow network models

(work with Erin Hult, Gianluca Iaccarino, and Catherine Gorlé)



Facility Lifecycle Modeling in 4D

The screenshot displays the Common Point Project 4D software interface. The main window shows a 3D model of a restaurant facility under construction, with a color-coded progress bar on the right indicating completion levels from 10% (red) to 100% (blue). The interface includes a menu bar, a toolbar, and a view control area. A callout box on the right indicates a cost of 34,040,708. The 'Edit 4D Component' dialog box is open, showing details for component 'ne_conc_col_11' (CAD ID 538). It lists schedule activities, related activities, environmental parameters, and material properties. A callout box on the left points to the 'Environmental Parameters' section, and another callout box at the bottom points to the 'Material Property' section. A callout box on the right points to the 3D model, and a callout box at the bottom points to the 'Material Types' table.

Environmental conditions over time

Maintenance and other activities

Predicted condition of systems and materials

Observed conditions (inspection reports)

Cost over time

Cost to date 34,040,708

Models	CODE	Material Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey and Melchers (2001)	CH	Marine Steel

Models	CODE	Material Type
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey and Melchers (2001)	CH	Marine Steel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey and Melchers (2002)	CW	Marine Steel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeffrey and Melchers (2003)	CP	Marine Steel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Owner Made	CH	Marine Steel
<input type="checkbox"/> Steel	60	Reinforced Concrete

CODE	Material Type	Stiffness
CH	Marine Steel	250,000
CW	Marine Steel	25,000
CP	Marine Steel	25,000
CH	Marine Steel	250,000
60	Reinforced Concrete	30,000

Work with Zixiao Zhang and Sarah Billington, Stanford

Accurate, timely look-ahead schedules would be helpful for complex projects in the finishing phase

- 12 types of crews
- 210 rooms per floor
- 20 operations per room on average

- Precedence constraints
- Crew availability
- Room availability and priority
- Blocking constraints
- Zone constraints



Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) campus project in Doha, Qatar
Collaboration with CCC

Content of a LAS for the finishing phase



05/05/08 → 05/19/08 → 07/10/08 → 07/17/08 → 07/31/08 → 08/14/08 → 08/21/08

Work Calendar

	1/2/2009	1/5/2009	1/6/2009	1/7/2009	1/8/2009	1/9/2009	1/12/2009	1/13/2009
COR1	[E001]; [Conduit and Box]	[E001]; [Conduit and Box]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]	[C001]; [Dry Wall]
ELE1								
ELE2	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[C10001]; [Screed]	[P001]; [Painting (Two Coats)]	[P001]; [Painting (Two Coats)]	[P001]; [Painting (Two Coats)]
IDF1					[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]	[D9001]; [Plastering]
IDF2								
PLT1	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]	[D9002]; [Plastering]

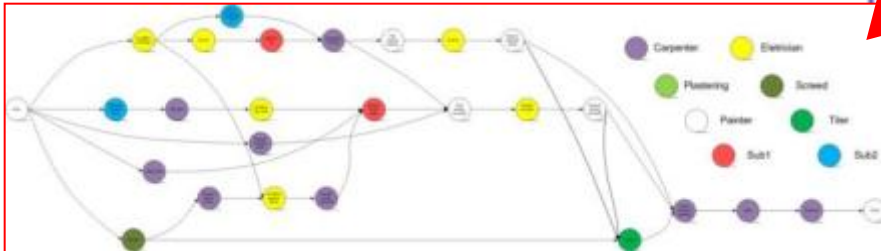
	1/2/2009	1/5/2009 ← When
Where → COR1	[E001]; [Conduit and Box]	[E001]; [Conduit and Box]
	Who	What



Formalizing the finishing work with fragnets

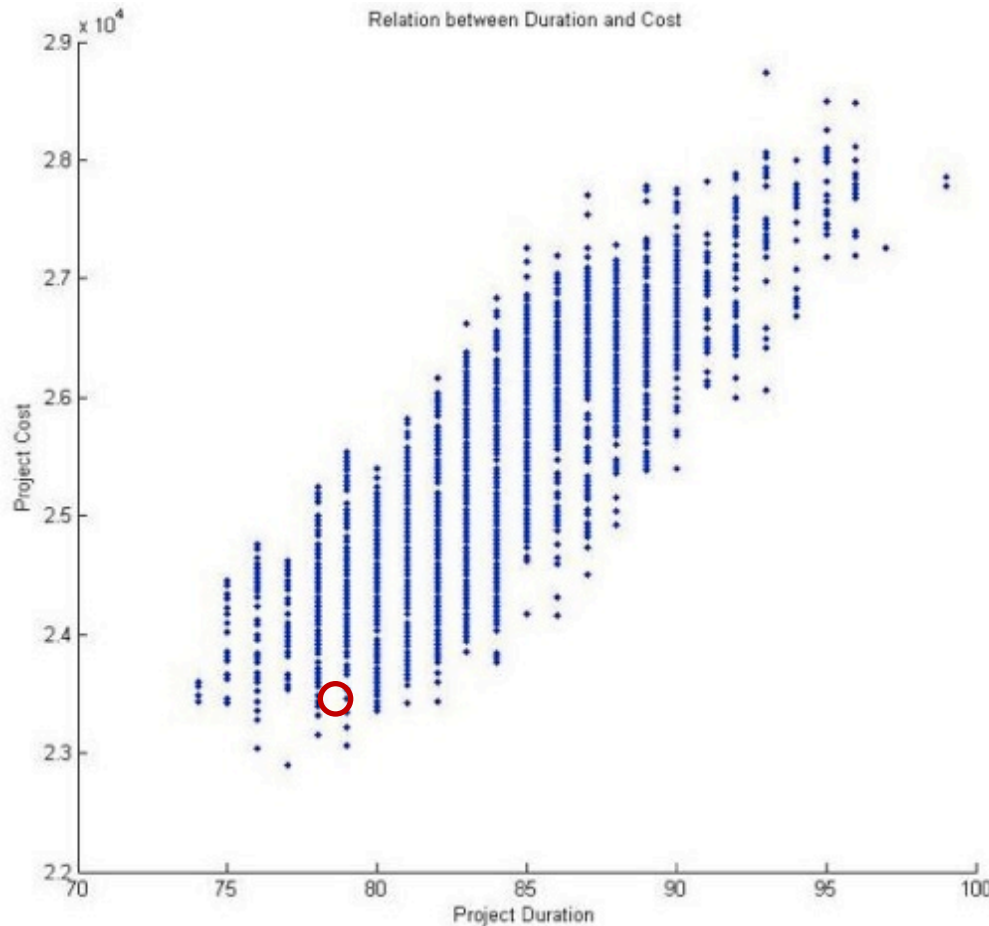
- 50+ Crews
- Hundreds of activities
- 200+ rooms

Who will do what when where?





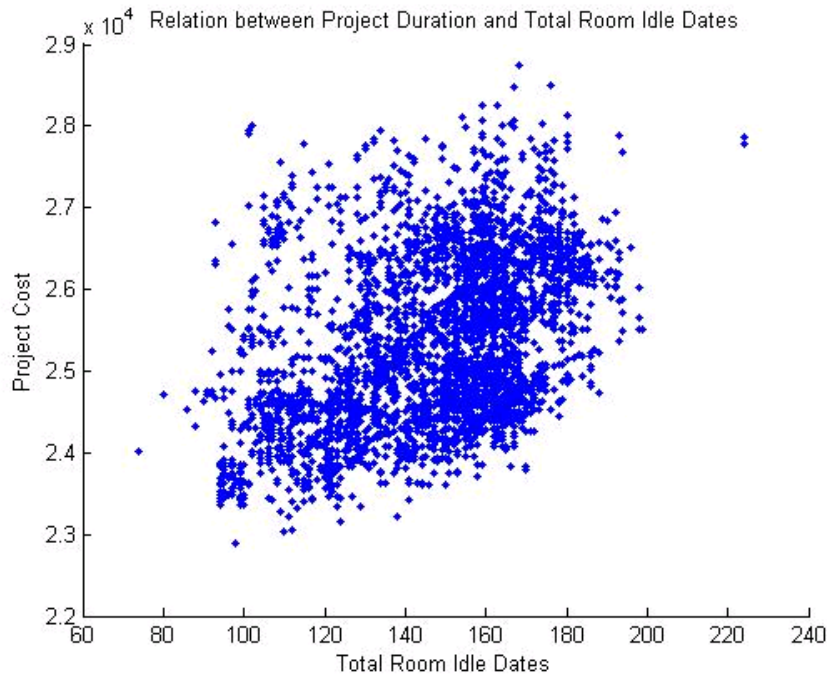
With automated scheduling the optimal resource allocation can be determined



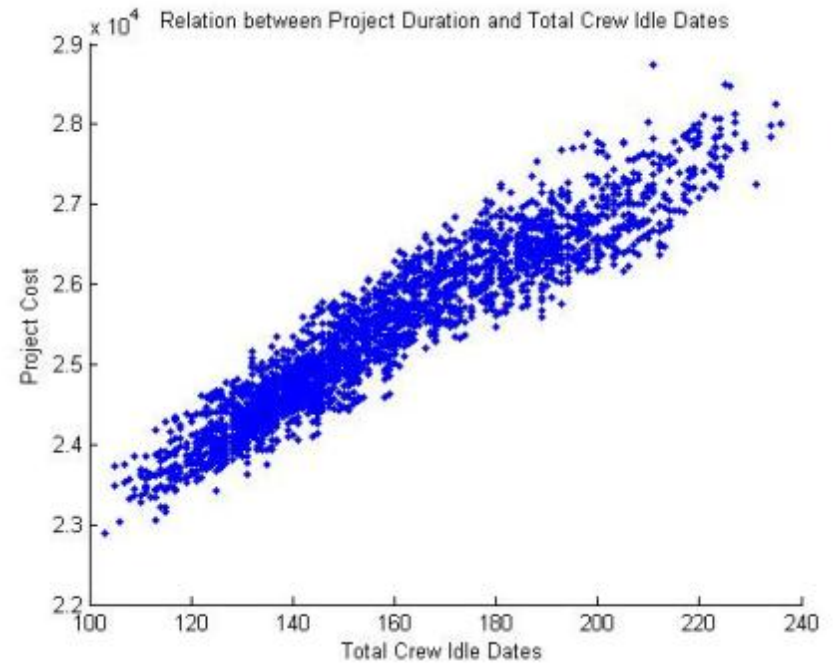
The schedule with the shortest duration is not the schedule with the lowest cost.



Testing Construction Management Heuristics

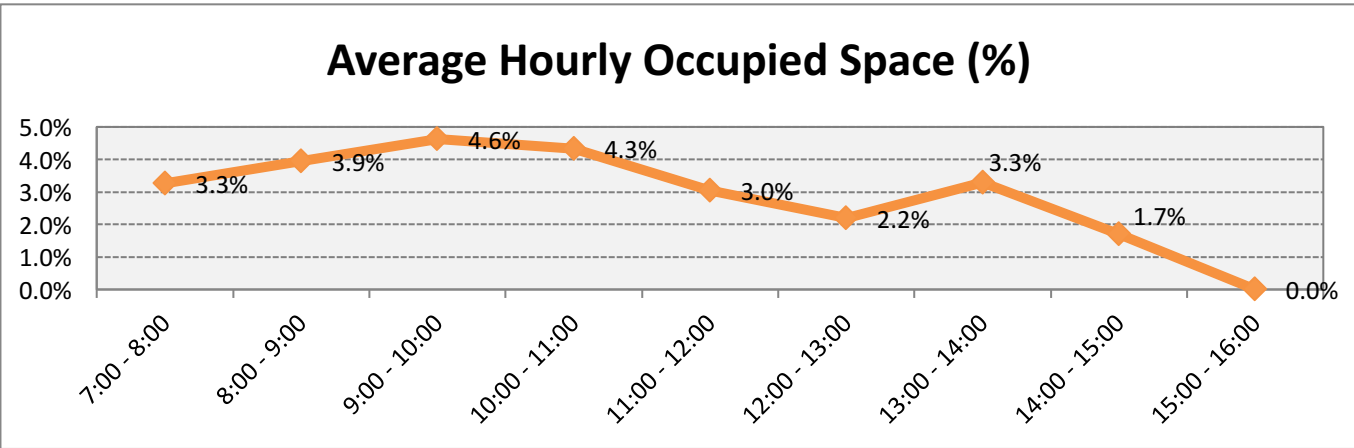


Working in **as many locations as possible** does not lead to a schedule with minimum cost.



Making **crews as busy as possible** leads to the schedule with minimum cost.

Space is underutilized on some construction sites



Average bay occupancy 3.1%

Need a method to maximize work density

Work with René Morkos

Flow-based Construction Site Management

NELLY GARCIA-LOPEZ

IN COLLABORATION WITH
GRAÑA Y MONTERO (LIMA)
GRUPO GALOPA (BOGOTA)
MT HØJGAARD (COPENHAGEN)

Case study: Applying the flow-based site management method



Project info:

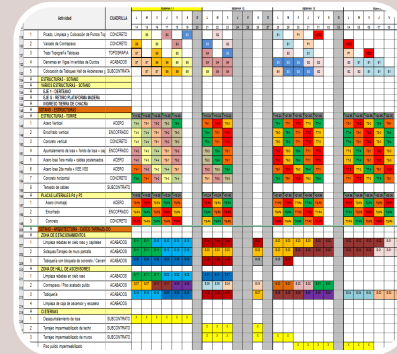
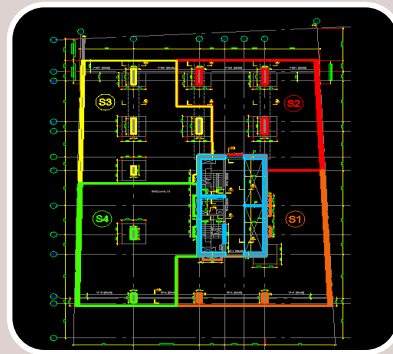
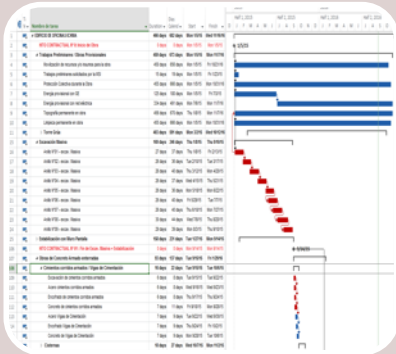
- Graña y Montero jobsite in Peru
- 11 basements + 21 floors
- 18-week period (8 weeks on site)
- Structural phase

Objectives:

1. Can the flow-based model represent the look-ahead plan?
2. Does the method help field managers make decisions during look-ahead and daily planning?



Case study project used best practices for production planning



Master plan

- Processes
- Gross constraints

Takt plan

- Sector definition
- Quantities
- Trade sequence
- Crew balancing

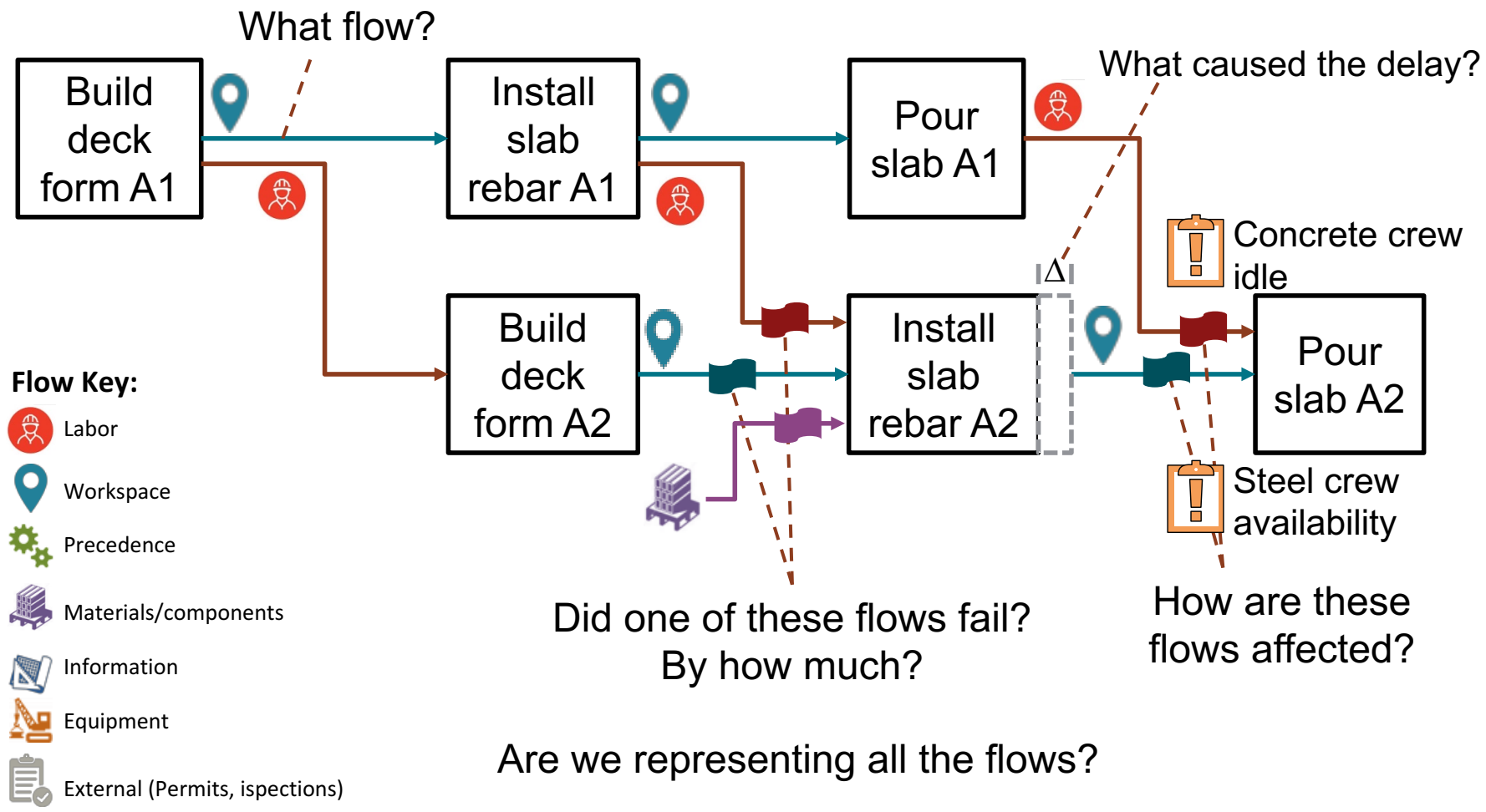
Look-ahead plan

- Constraints analysis
- Productivity
- PPC + reasons

Daily plan

- Quantities
- Productivity
- Daily PPC
- Visual planning

Existing construction models do not formally represent, track, or quantify the activity flows



GyM case study data (18 weeks)

	Total	Per week
# Activities	1,153	64
# Flows	4,192	232
# Data points	415,008	23,056



Large dataset for supporting:

Performance analytics

Predictive models
(data mining + machine learning)

Total additional data collection effort: 45 hours

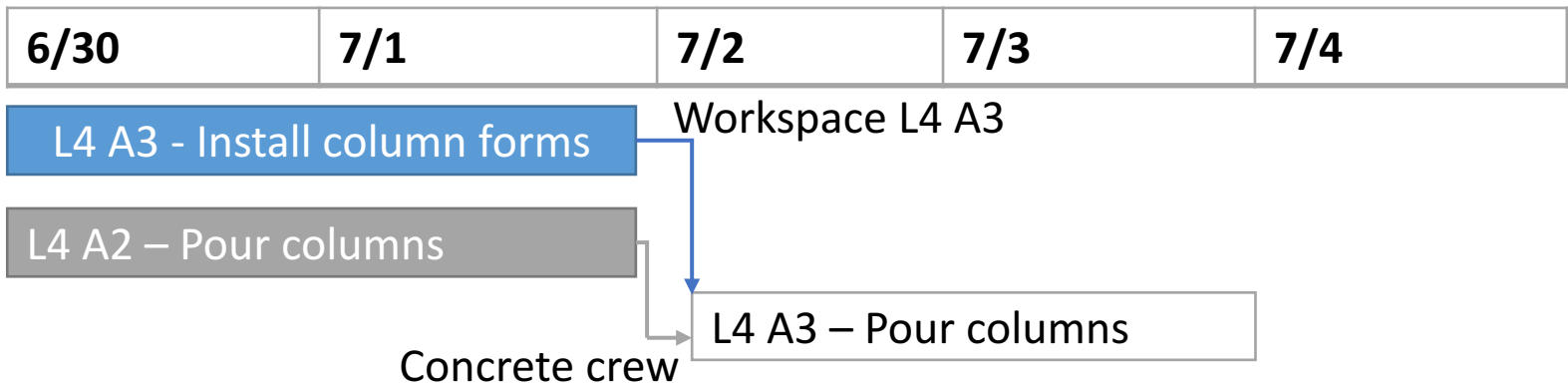
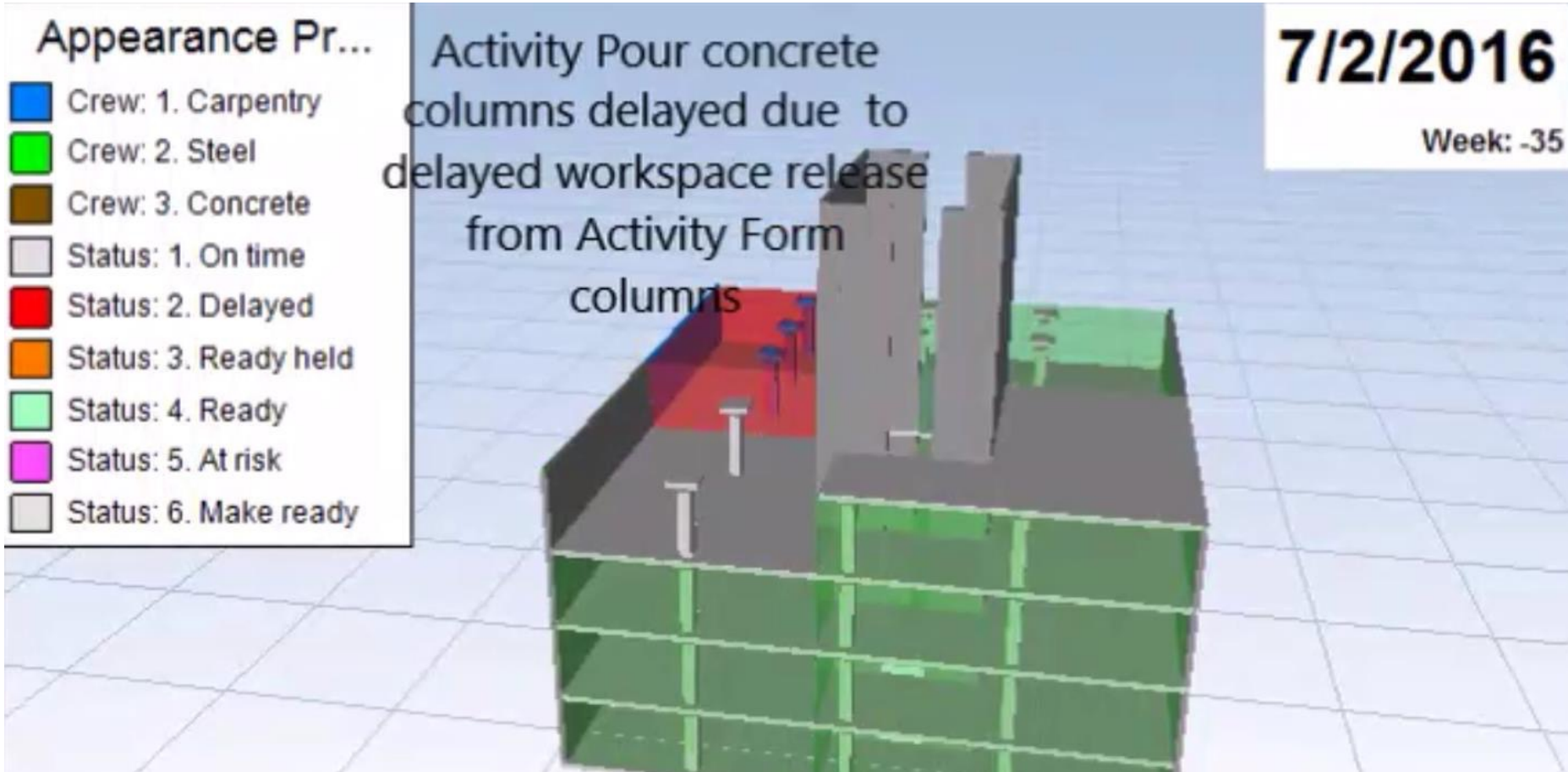
Appearance Pr...

- Crew: 1. Carpentry
- Crew: 2. Steel
- Crew: 3. Concrete
- Status: 1. On time
- Status: 2. Delayed
- Status: 3. Ready held
- Status: 4. Ready
- Status: 5. At risk
- Status: 6. Make ready

Activity Pour concrete columns delayed due to delayed workspace release from Activity Form columns

7/2/2016

Week: -35

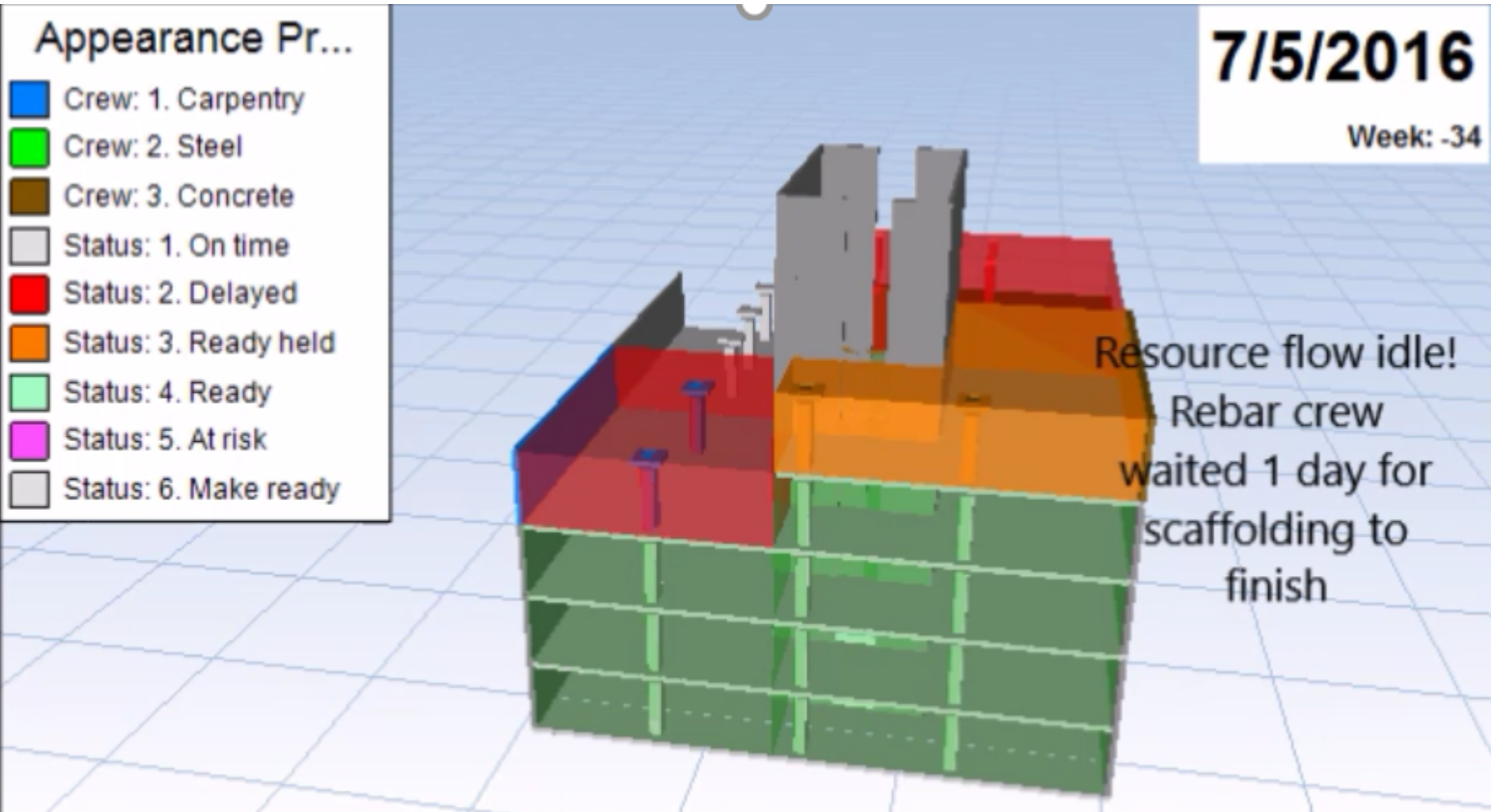


Appearance Pr...

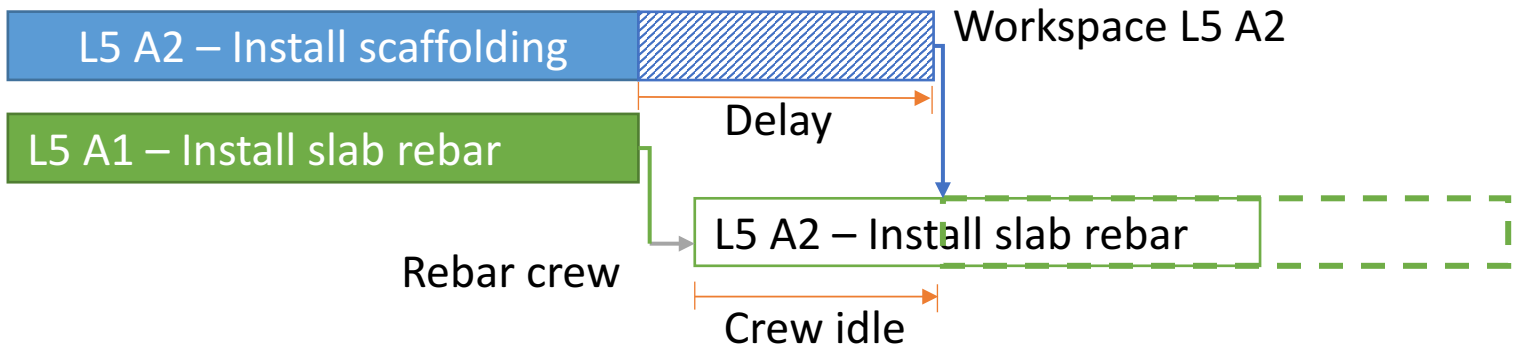
- Crew: 1. Carpentry
- Crew: 2. Steel
- Crew: 3. Concrete
- Status: 1. On time
- Status: 2. Delayed
- Status: 3. Ready held
- Status: 4. Ready
- Status: 5. At risk
- Status: 6. Make ready

7/5/2016

Week: -34



7/2	7/3	7/4	7/5	7/6
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Rebar crew

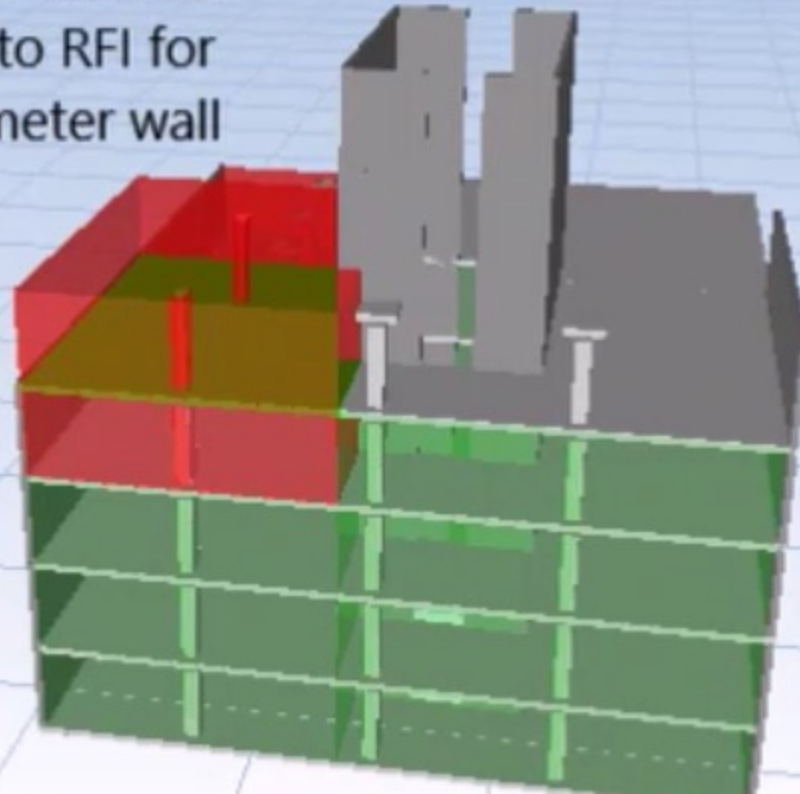
Appearance Pr...

- Crew: 1. Carpentry
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- Crew: 3. Concrete
- Status: 1. On time
- Status: 2. Delayed
- Status: 3. Ready held
- Status: 4. Ready
- Status: 5. At risk
- Status: 6. Make ready

Alert! Out of sequence work due to RFI for perimeter wall

7/8/2016

Week: -34



RFI
Due date: 7/7
OVERDUE!

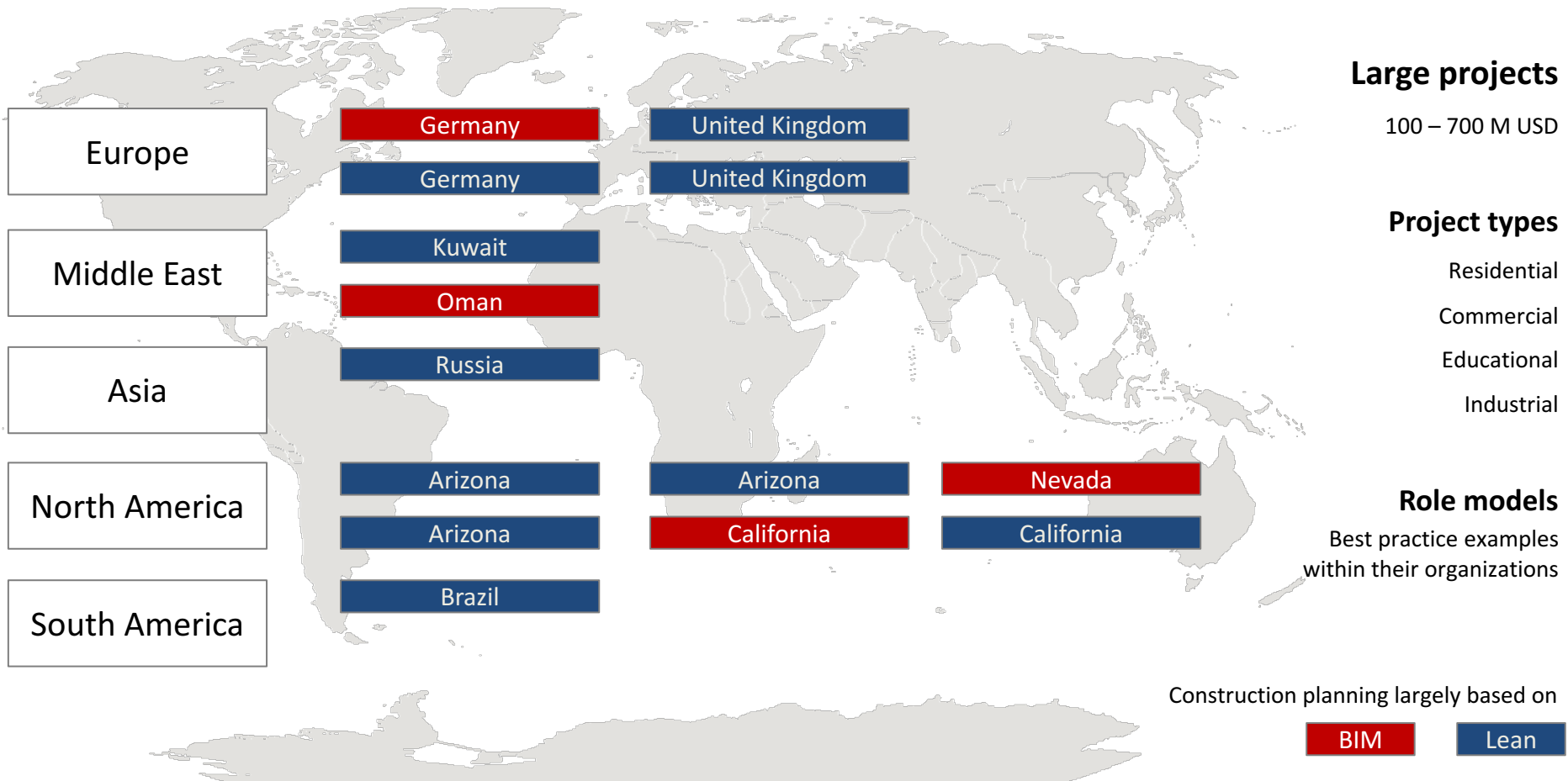
7/8	7/9	7/10	7/11
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L5 A3 – Install wall rebar

Rebar crew

L5 A4 – Install wall rebar

14 projects studied



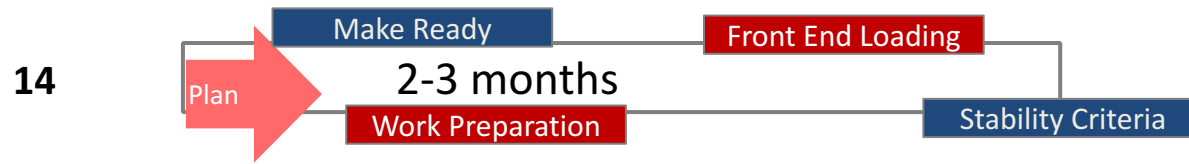
Work with Maximilian Schütz, CIFE & Max Bögl, with support from Autodesk

We have data from all 14 projects, we visited 9 projects in person at least once.

4 Planning cycles observed

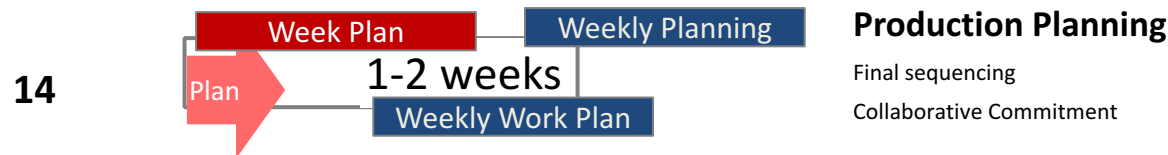


Projects



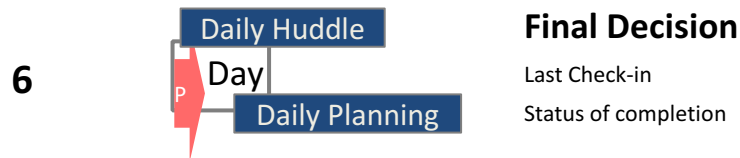
Supply Chain Management

Design documents
Resources and material
Logistics



Production Planning

Final sequencing
Collaborative Commitment



Final Decision

Last Check-in
Status of completion

Terminology of projects

BIM

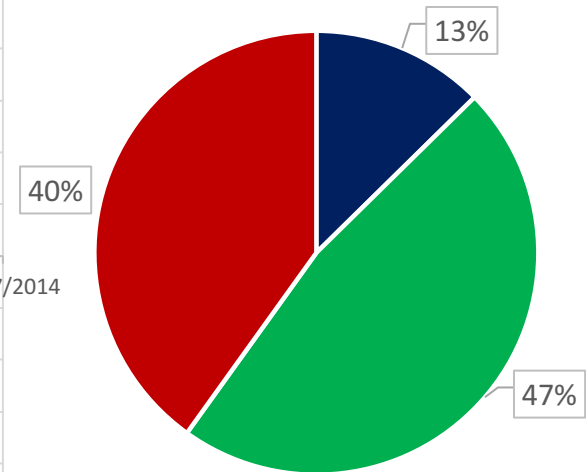
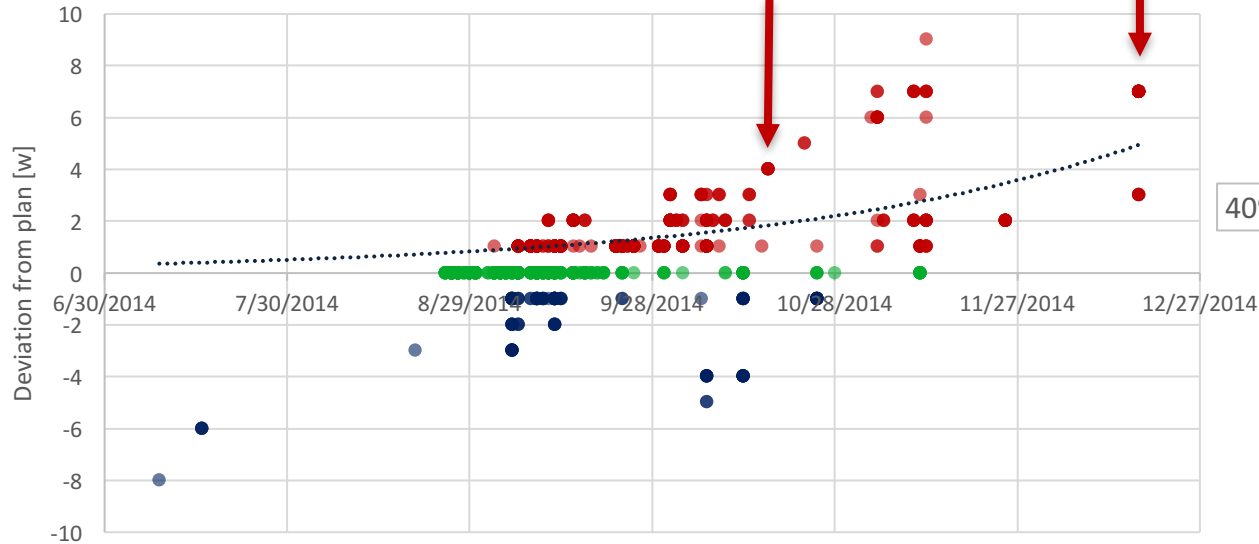
Lean

Planning accuracy of weekly work plans



Each dot represents the actual construction of a building element represented in BIM

Stopped weekly planning effort once the planning performance deteriorated

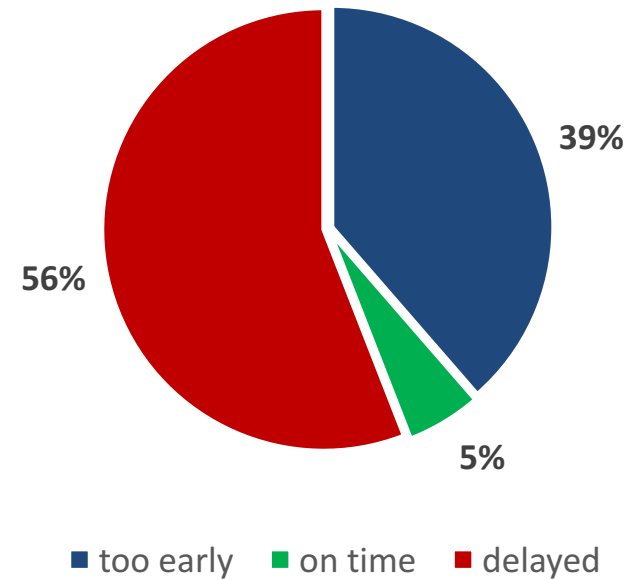
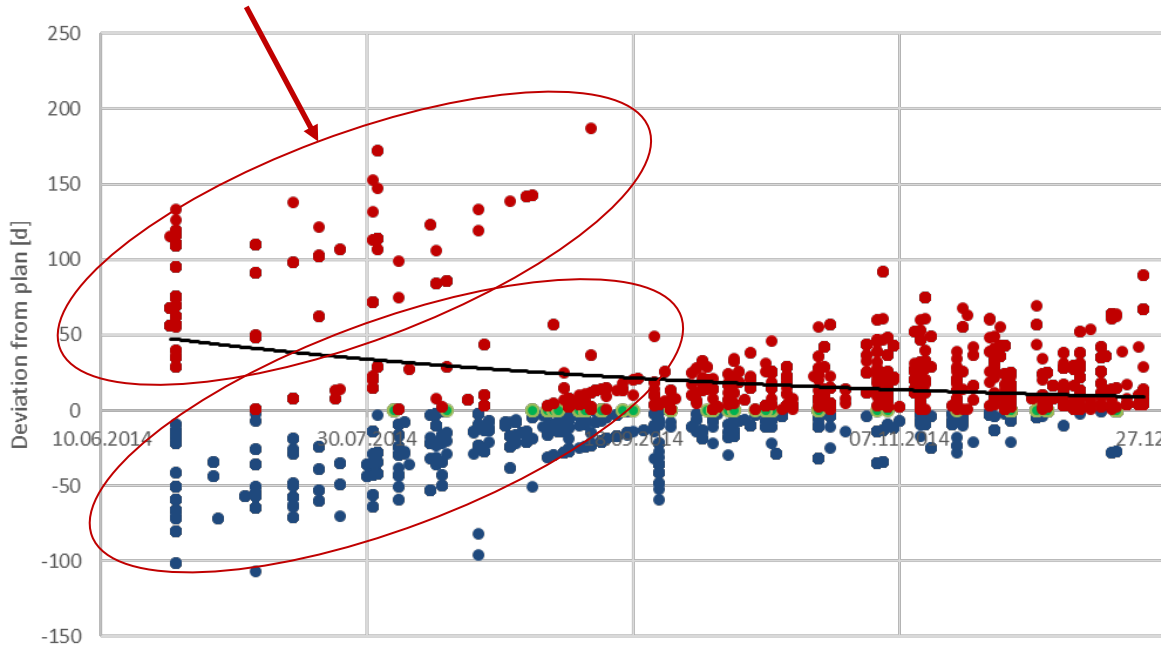


■ too early ■ on time ■ delayed

Planning accuracy of 2-month look-ahead plans



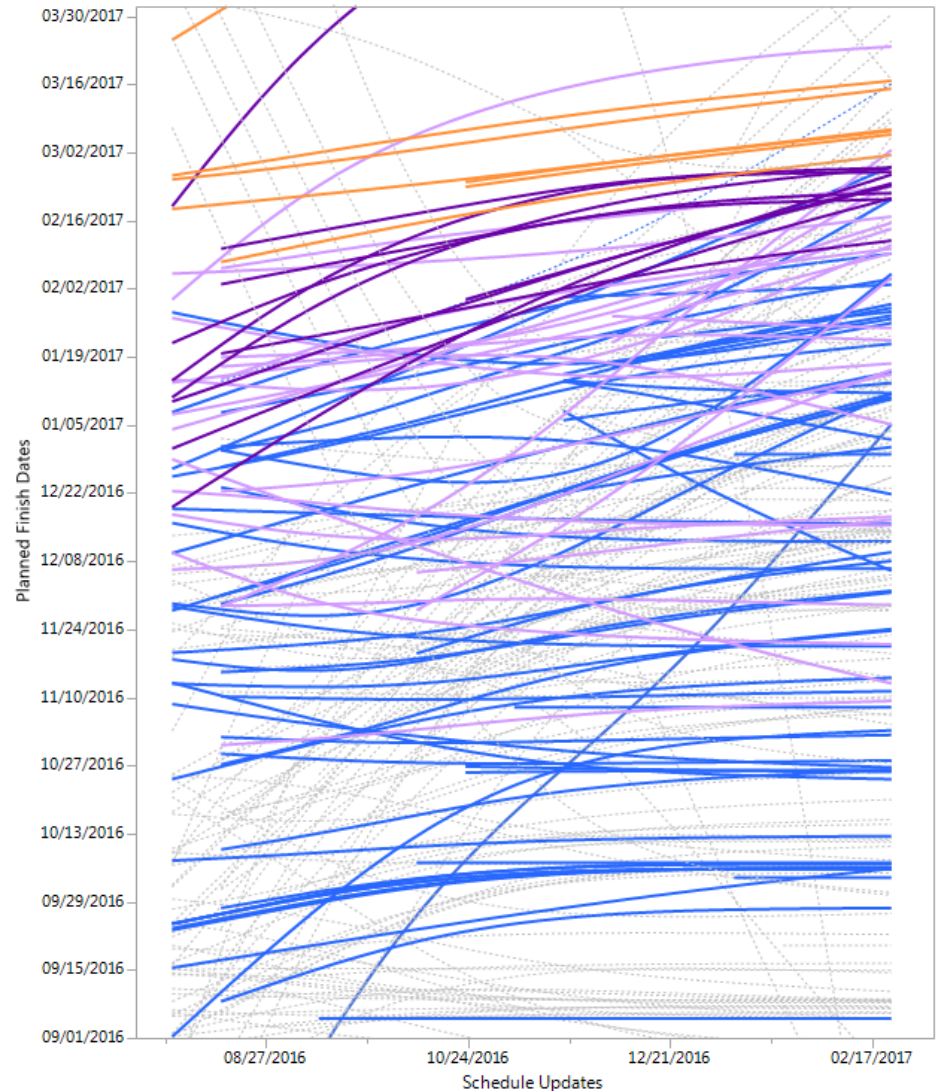
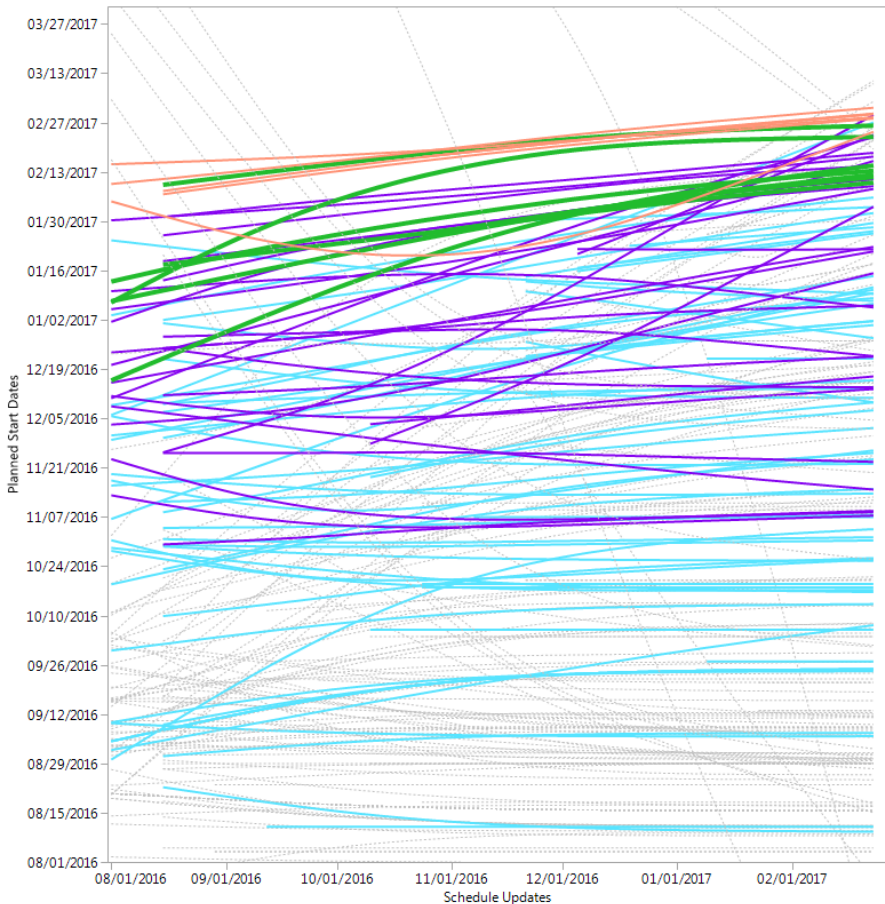
Major changes in sequence



2-month look-ahead plans were 5% accurate

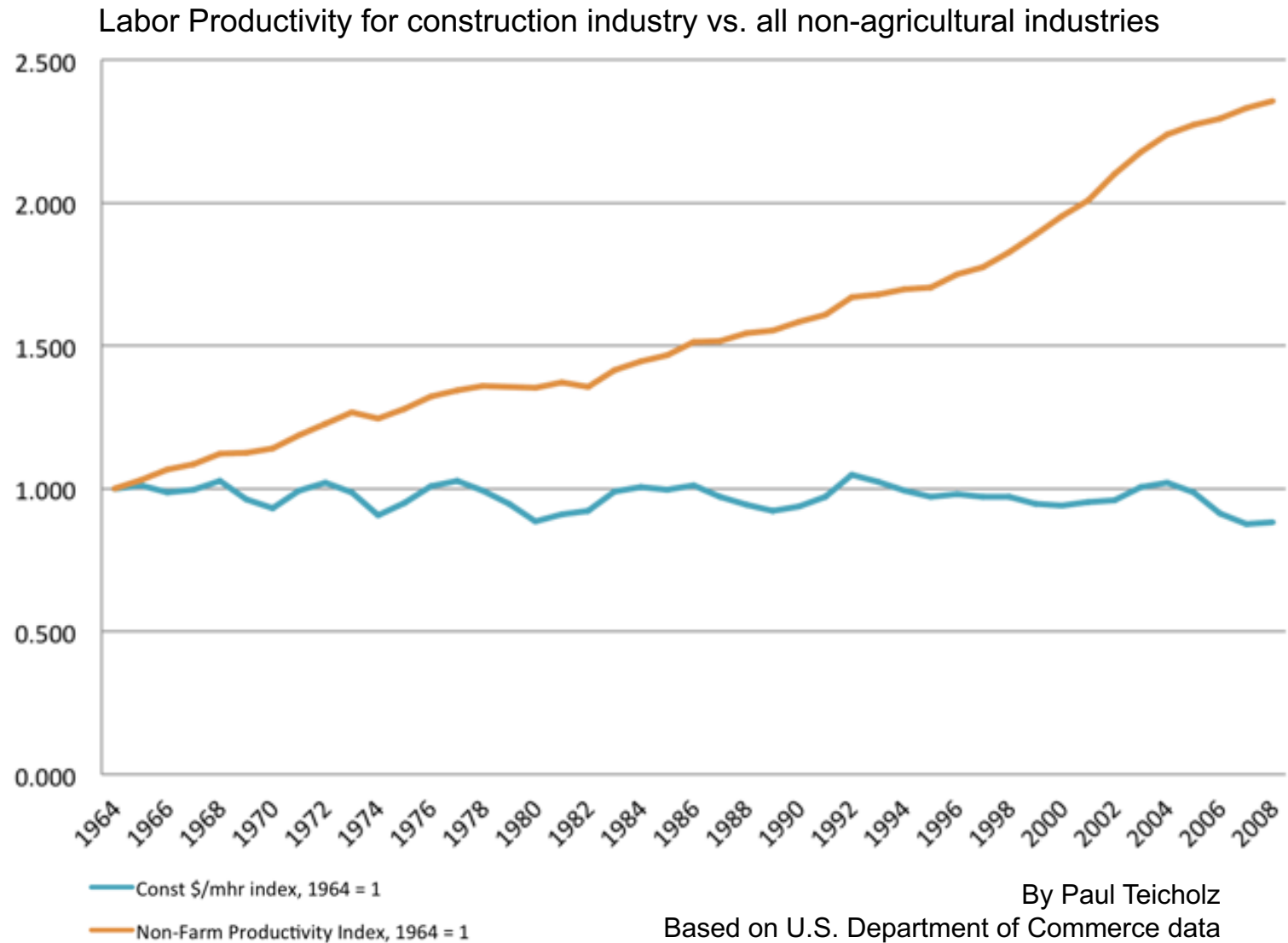
Stability of schedules over time

Diagrams show changes in activity start dates (y-axis) from schedule update to schedule update (x axis). An activity is represented by a line. The left diagram shows a relatively stable schedule (many lines are horizontal or close to horizontal). The right diagram shows a chaotic schedule (many activities have significant changes in start date).



Work with Parisa Nikhoo, DPR

Productivity in construction lags productivity in other industries



By Paul Teicholz

Based on U.S. Department of Commerce data

Vision –

A future I would like to make happen

Every workhour
builds the right product
safely and productively